

September 9, 2014

To: Public Lands Interim Committee

From: Jim Rehder

Subject: Public Lands' testimony

The plan for the State of Idaho to take over national public lands is bad for Idaho for many reasons and I offer some for your consideration:

- The cost of firefighting alone should indicate the transfer of public lands to the State of Idaho is costly and unsustainable. Idaho cannot afford or manage this extraordinary condition.
- The State of Idaho does not have the staff or resources to manage the millions of national public lands within our state boundaries, especially roads and trail maintenance.
- Currently national public lands, for the most part, provide multi-use opportunities for the people. The public land "for profit" strategy would threaten public use.
- The action to takeover national public lands by the state is unconstitutional.
- The current effort to take over public lands, including the hearings by the Public Lands Interim Committee, is extraordinarily costly to the tax payers. These costs include outside attorneys to defend the committee's objectives.

I believe the State and Counties should continue to work with the Federal Government for mutual benefit of public lands opportunities and resources for all. Thank you for your consideration of my recommendations to stop the effort by the state to take over national public lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Rehder", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Rehder
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Cottonwood, ID 83522